

CARTSNEWS

The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all CARTS members,

It's Fall again and time for another CARTS meeting. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend. I will be out of town at a wedding all weekend and would rather be looking at tokens, but what can you do. I hope you guys have a great time and if any of you have any South Carolina tokens to show me, please let me know by email.

The meeting will be held on November 12, 2016 in Hendersonville. Please see elsewhere in this issue for the particulars on time and place.

Regards,
Tony Chibbaro, President of CARTS

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!
Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

If you think your editor is "losing it," there is some evidence you are correct. I managed to lose part of Tony's "new finds" article last time. So I have reprinted the portion beginning with Fair's Pharmacy in St. Matthews, SC. I believe I now have that portion complete. My apologies.

Our November 12 Meeting in Hendersonville will be held at the Ramada Inn, 150 Sugar Loaf Road, from 8:00 until noon.

From the Asheville Area: Take Interstate 26 toward Hendersonville. At exit 49 take highway 64 toward Bat Cave. At the first traffic light after crossing over I 26 turn right on Sugar Loaf Road and go to 150 Sugar Loaf Rd. (Ramada Inn) on the left about ¼ mile from the traffic light.

From the South/ South Carolina: Arrive on I 26 at exit 49 and take the Bat Cave exit. At the top of the exit ramp you will come to the first traffic light, turn right on Sugar Loaf Road and go to 150 Sugar Loaf (Ramada Inn).

From all other locations: Come to Hendersonville, take Highway 64 to the Bat Cave side of I 26. At the first traffic light turn right on Sugar Loaf Road and proceed approximately ¼ mile to 150 Sugar Loaf (Ramada Inn)

North Carolina Token Collector

Cataloger of North Carolina
Buyer of singles or collections
Trader list for all states
Enthusiastic researcher

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Want to buy southern states
tokens,
mavericks found in North
Carolina.

Want to buy R.G. Dun and Bradstreet
Reference Books. Need 1963 & newer,
1882, 1884 & 1897.

FAIR'S PHARMACY ST. MATTHEWS, SC

Tony Chibbaro



Fair's Pharmacy, Good For 5¢ Drink, St. Matthews, S.C. – brass, 23mm.

Henry N. Fair (1850-1911) opened a drug store on West Bridge Street in Saint Matthews in 1875. Over the next 35 years he became one of the town's most respected citizens, serving many years as postmaster and on the board of trustees of the local high school. In 1908 he and

his two sons incorporated the business as Fair's Pharmacy, with H.N. Fair as president and his oldest son, Julian H. Fair (1880-1957) as secretary. Also working at the drug store was Fair's younger son, William W. Fair (1885-1965). When H.N. Fair died in 1911, his two sons took over the business and ran it for another 35 years. The store was finally closed in 1946. Henry N. Fair was buried in Prospect Methodist Church Cemetery in 1911, Julian H. Fair was buried in the Houser Family Cemetery in 1957, and William W. Fair was buried in St. Pauls Methodist Church Cemetery in 1965.

Other denominations discovered for previously reported issuers are:

F.Y. Legare, Mullet Hall, S.C. – 1¢, round, aluminum

Brown-Ingram Lumber Co., Poston, S.C. - 1.00, 25, & 10, all round, brass

“COOK BROS.” TOKENS OF TODD, NC

LAMAR BLAND

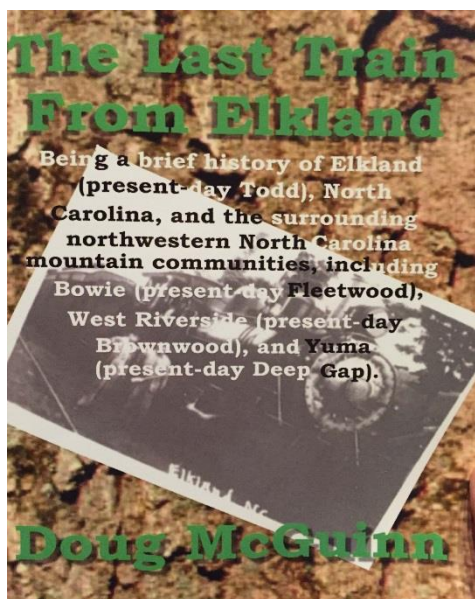
If you search for Cook Bros. at tokencatalogue.com, three 1914 Ingle tokens are listed, in values of 1, 10, and 25. Though no location is named on them, Ingle records indicate they were for the store in Todd, N.C. Two other Cook Bros. tokens are referenced having “UNKNOWN” locations. My photos show one of them.



**COOK BROS./ (encircled) GOOD FOR / 5¢ /
IN TRADE // (blank) – BR, SQ, 25mm. (all
incuse)**

Could this token have been used in Todd as well?

Todd, previously known as Elkland, was a lumbering community in northwestern Ashe County by 1890. It was near a rail line which sent harvested timber to the southwestern Virginia town of Abingdon. In his 2007 booklet *THE LAST TRAIN FROM ELKLAND*, Doug McGuinn cites a 1914 *WATAUGA DEMOCRAT* ad indicating Todd was poised for growth. It was described as “the queen city of the mountains, the hub of Ashe County...where fortune awaits you, the town of opportunity.” By 1913, Todd already “had two stores, a sawmill, a gristmill, a post office, two churches, two lodges, and several houses” (p. 21). And the Virginia-Carolina Railway (known as the “Virginia Creeper”) would extend its line into Todd very soon. That final station opened in May 1915. It remained operative until 1933.



McGuinn writes that Monroe Cook (1880-1970) built the Cook store in 1914 in anticipation of Todd’s future growth. His brother Walter (1891-1977) would join him there in late 1916 or early 1917 after his own brick-making business was destroyed by a disastrous July flood. Walter and his wife Annie became central to the store’s operation,

so much so that Walter bought the store in 1917 and changed its name to “the W.G. Cook store.” McGuinn’s data suggests that “the Cook Bros. General Store” was the business name for a short period of time—from mid-1916 until the change in ownership in 1917. Ingle records indicate, somewhat vaguely, that tokens were delivered to Todd “about 1917.” Unfortunately their ledger which would provide more exact detail about shipment dates and mintages of 1914 Ingles has been lost.

THE LAST TRAIN FROM ELKLAND, pictured above, contains the only information I’ve found about token use at the store. McGuinn has Annie Cook remembering: “Business was good at the store, but hard Everybody was poor...and a lot of times people didn’t have enough money to pay for their goods We used to buy roots, herbs, bark, hides, rabbits, chestnuts, eggs, butter, and just about anything that people had to sell. Sometimes, if they couldn’t pay for their purchases, we would give them a due bill and they’d come back and trade it out later” (p.29). McGuinn then writes that Walter and Annie ran the store for 40 years, selling it in 1954. This dating would have them as operators as early as 1914, modifying his earlier claim that Monroe built the store and ran it first.

I’m intrigued that Annie Cook used the term “due-bill” in describing their tokens. I have heard locals from other North Carolina stores use that word to denote their tokens. They have also called them “clackers,” “dugglu,” “lightweight,” “loonies,” and even “dukies.” But I have not heard them call their tokens “Ingles.” Two researchers who have seen my token estimate its era to be “around 1915” or “the twenties,” both estimates near the time when the Cook brothers managed the store. Does Annie’s language open the possibility that the token pictured above was used at Todd prior to the Ingles? Her term “due-bill” seems to more appropriately reference the features of the square token. Their known number is small.

Ten or so are referenced in Rulau's 2004 *STANDARD CATALOG OF U.S. TOKENS*, and they are known in only this denomination.

Other businesses operating prior to the Todd store, or contemporaneous with it, included Todd Mercantile Company, McGuire Bros. and Company, W.S. Miller & Co., Elkland Supply Co., The Blue Ridge Lumber Company, The J. Walter Wright Lumber Company, and Stansberry's Mill. An on-line source indicated nine stores in the community, perhaps influencing a Cooks' decision to order tokens (Ingles) in larger supply.

I think this collective history suggests that both Ingles and the square Cook Bros. tokens could

have been used in Todd. The square tokens were likely the first. The Ingles were probably used into the 1920's in spite of the store's new name.

Admittedly my claim rests on circumstantial reasoning, not direct evidence. Whatever the token reality, the store had an interesting history and a long life. It changed ownership six times, and was a community influence until October, 2015. On-line references include photos which show its various service. It is currently boarded up and for sale.

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Charlotte, NC Shell Card Mirror

Randy Partin & Bob King



The above brass shell card mirror reads: JOHN T. BUTLER / PRACTICAL / CLOCK & / WATCH /

MAKER / JEWELER & C / MAIN ST. / CHARLOTTE, N.C. In small letters at 9:00 to the left of the work "Clock" is PATD JUNE. At 3:00 to the right of the word "Maker" is 10 1868. Put it together at it reads "PATD JUNE 10 1868. It measures 38mm in diameter. It is about 5mm in width because it has 5 small holes on each side of the rim for straight pins.

In the recently published *GUIDE TO U.S. SHELL CARDS 1867-1880* by Q. David Bowers there are only 2 North Carolina shell cards listed. One is mistakenly listed under South Carolina. Bowers does list the shell card mirrors like this one but does not have this John T. Butler shell card/mirror from Charlotte listed in the book. On a side note: There are only 2 shell cards listed from South Carolina too so only 4 (and now 5) known from the Carolinas.

Many years ago I was on a token hunting trip in North Carolina stopping in several different towns. In a town that seems like it was around 30-40 miles north of Charlotte, but I don't remember exactly, I went to an antique store and don't remember finding much. While in the downtown area I noticed an old hardware store that was still open for business. I enjoy going into old buildings just to enjoy soaking up the history of the building itself, the architecture, and to try to imagine what it must have been like in that place 100 years ago or more. Anyway I went into this hardware store to look around and the

floors were made of old wooden planks. The ceiling was very high. They had the usual looking hardware items for sale as well as displays that looked very old here and there still offering items for sale. There were 3 or 4 employees as well as several customers making purchases. I enjoyed looking at all the interesting things. I saw a display of various miscellaneous small hardware related items in one area. I noticed that one item was a dark round item about the size of a silver dollar. I thought it must be a washer or something like that but the token collector in me made me pick it up. What I picked up was this shell card from Charlotte. I turned it over and saw an old \$3 price sticker on the mirror. I couldn't believe my good fortune. There was not one other thing in the store that was numismatic related so I was surprised to find this. A 19th century shell card seemed out of place in this retail hardware store so I held my breath when I asked if this item was for sale. The cashier said yes it was and rang me up for \$3 plus tax. That made my day!

I asked Bob King what he might know about this business and he graciously sent me the following information:

John T. Butler was a watchmaker and jeweler born in 1836 in New York. He isn't listed in the 1850 North Carolina Census but appears in the 1860 Census in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County as a watchmaker and jeweler. He continues as a sole owner of his jewelry store through 1870's and through the 1880's. His last year in business was 1890. Over the years he was listed as a watchmaker, jeweler and silversmith. It appears that he was the leading jeweler in Charlotte from 1860 through 1890. In 1887 John T. Butler lived at 613 South Tryon Street and his business was located at 11 North Tryon Street.

The following references were used. Note that from 1861 through 1865 no references were available.

1866-Branson and Farrar's Directory, 1867-Branson Directory, 1869-Branson, 1872-Branson, 1877-Branson, 1884-Branson, 1890-Branson

1872-similar to R.G. Dun but owner unknown, 1875-Zell's Directory, 1877-Unknown author, 1879-Dun, Barlow & Co. Directory, 1880-Bradstreet Company Directory, 1881, 1883, 1885 & 1886-Bradstreet's Directories, 1887-Bradstreet Reports, 1889 & 1890-R.G. Dun & Co. Directories, 1887-Charlotte City Company

New Finds from South Carolina

Tony Chibbaro



Bluffton Oyster Co., 1 Pint, Bluffton, S.C. – yellow cardboard, 38mm.

The Bluffton Oyster Company was not the first entity to operate an oyster packing house at the southern end of Wharf Street in Bluffton. That distinction falls to Clarence W. "Buster" Martin (1894-1959), who built the first oyster shucking facility on the point which juts out into the May River. Martin gained control of the property in the late 1910s or early 1920s and ran his shucking house until the early 1930s. In 1932, John S. Graves, Jr. (1910-1964) leased the property from the Town of Bluffton and formed the Bluffton Seafood Company. He packed oysters under the Bluffton Brand label until the 1960s and, interestingly, paid his rent in oyster shell which was used to pave the streets of Bluffton. Later came the Bluffton Oyster Cooperative, a consortium of African-Americans who joined together to continue shucking and packing oysters at the site. The group, which

included Melvin Austin, A.C. Baker, Tom Barnwell, Sam Bennett, Clarence Butler, Oscar Frazier, Katherine Green, Andrew Kidd, and Jesse Kitte, ran the cooperative until 1982.

In that year the Bluffton Oyster Cooperative entered bankruptcy and its assets were purchased by Jerry Reeves. The Bluffton Oyster Company was formed at that time and cardboard tokens were made for use as work tallies. Reeves had his son Michael run the business until 1993 when Larry Toomer was hired as manager. In 1995, Toomer and his sister leased the factory from Reeves, and operated it as their own business for the next three years. In 1998, Toomer gained full control by buying out his sister. Larry Toomer and his wife Tina still operate the business as Bluffton Oyster Company and also sell other locally-harvested seafood including clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, and soft shell and blue crabs. The cinderblock structure which houses the facility at the end of Wharf Street was built in 1954 and is the last shucking house still operating in South Carolina.



Geers Drug Store, 5 Cents, (Charleston, S.C.) – brass, 20mm, uniface, all incuse.

The Geer Drug Company was founded in 1896 by a group of local businessmen who purchased the assets of Dowie & Moise, a wholesale-retail drug firm that had done business on Meeting Street since 1867. Thomas R. McGahan (1825-1905) was the company's president; Samuel Wiley, its secretary and treasurer; and Andrew J. Geer (1865-1943), the general manager. Geer, from whom the company took its name, had worked for Dowie & Moise as a clerk and traveling salesman since 1888. The company steadily grew its wholesale business and expanded to the Piedmont area in 1910 when it purchased the Crutchfield & Tolleson Wholesale Drug Company of Spartanburg. A decade later the company opened a branch in Greenville. Sometime in the 1920s Geer became company president and

held that position until his death in 1943. He was also instrumental in organizing the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston and served as president of the local Chamber of Commerce.

The Geer Drug Company survived the death of its founder, and with three distribution points in South Carolina, the firm became attractive as a takeover target. In 1979 the company was purchased by Alco Standard Corporation of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Six years later Alco spun off its drug-distribution operations into a separate company - Alco Health Services Corporation. The Spartanburg facility was closed that same year, and, in 1992, Alco also closed the Charleston plant and ceased operations under the Geer name. Two years later the company changed its name to AmeriSource Health Corporation and, after a merger with Bergen Brunswig, is now known as AmerisourceBergen Corporation.

In the 1950s and 1960s the Geer Drug Company also issued two different "spinner" tokens advertising their business. Both were aluminum, but one was inscribed "You Win" on the reverse, whereas the other was inscribed "You Pay."



N.S. Kirby, 1, Ingle System 1909 reverse, (Columbia, S.C.) – brass, 18mm.

Nelson S. Kirby (1873-1954) opened a meat market on State Street in New Brookland in 1899. In 1904, he moved his store across the Congaree River to 900 Washington Street in Columbia proper, the location he occupied when the tokens were ordered. Kirby stayed there for 5 years and then relocated again to 3708 Main Street in the Eau Claire neighborhood. This store was open for six more years before he took a job with the wholesale grocery firm, Lorick & Lowrance. In 1925, Kirby gave up the grocery business completely and starting working as a mill operative for Columbia Mills on Gervais Street. He worked there for an additional 10 years before retiring in 1935.

Prior to the appearance of this specimen, tokens issued by N.S. Kirby had been unknown, although

his name appeared in the Ingle System ledger as having ordered tokens from the Ingle Company. There are presently fourteen South Carolina merchants that received shipments from the Ingle Company whose tokens have yet to be cataloged.



Simpson Drug Co., Good For 5¢ at Fount., (Cowpens, S.C.) – nickel, 29mm.

The Simpson Drug Company was created in 1918 when the Simpson-Moore Drug Company (a firm which also issued tokens) was disbanded. Perry D. Simpson (1878-1948) ran the store until the following year when he relocated to his hometown of Prosperity. There he opened a drug store of the same name and operated it until 1926. He later moved to the town of Springfield in Orangeburg County and worked as a prescription clerk until his retirement in the mid-1940s. He died in Lancaster in 1948 and was buried in Prosperity.

It is likely that this token was first issued in Cowpens and later used in Prosperity, after Simpson relocated his pharmacy there.



Riley Bros., 25¢, (Graniteville, S.C.) – aluminum, 24mm.

In the early 1900s, Henry H. Riley (1881-1962) and his four brothers moved to Graniteville from the town of Wards, which is now located in Saluda County but was then part of Aiken County. Riley

had received training as a sawmill engineer and the five siblings founded the Riley Brothers Lumber Company about 1903. The firm operated a circular sawmill of 18,000 board-foot capacity, a planing mill, a cabinet shop, and a short logging railroad. The company's primary output was long leaf and short leaf yellow pine lumber. In 1912, the firm opened a second sawmill at White Pond, also in Aiken County. Besides Henry, the other brothers involved in the firm were James M. Riley (1869-1906), Jesse M. Riley (1872-1944), William T. Riley (1884-1965), and Daniel O. Riley (1888-1965). Around 1920, Henry Riley assumed full control of the business and ran the mill until the early 1930s when the Depression forced him to shut it down. He died in 1962 and was buried in Graniteville Cemetery.

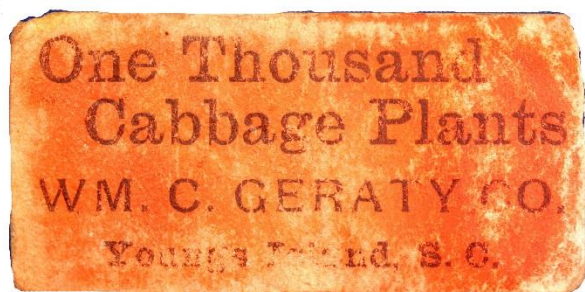
As far as is known, the Riley Brothers did not operate a commissary. A letter from Ollie Riley Jordan, the daughter of Henry Riley, explains how the tokens were used: *"Each day when the time came for the workers to check out from work, they were each paid their daily wages with tokens. At the end of the week the tokens were cashed in for their weekly pay in cash money."*

Two other denominations are known, both in aluminum – a 50¢ token measuring 30mm and a 10¢ token at 18mm. It is also interesting to note that the Riley Brothers issued a 5¢ token which had been "repurposed", that is, a token that was originally struck for use by another business but counter-stamped for use by the Riley Brothers. In this case, a token previously issued by a tavern or billiard parlor called "The Gem" was stamped with the Riley Brothers' initials (R B) on the reverse and then utilized by them in their lumber business.



Byrd's Good Shoes, (Greenwood, S.C.) – aluminum, 32mm.

George A. Byrd (1860-1923) entered the dry goods business in Greenwood in 1896. At first he carried a wide range of clothing and household utensils, but narrowed the focus of his business to clothing and shoes after the turn of the century. In 1909 he and his wife incorporated the G.A. Byrd Outfitting Company, a firm whose name was changed in 1917 to the G.A. Byrd Shoe Company, when sales were further limited to footwear only. Byrd was a frequent advertiser in the Greenwood newspapers, offering “Byrd’s Good Shoes” to the “discriminating public,” and boasted on more than one occasion that he carried over 20,000 pairs of shoes in stock at his store. Byrd died in 1923 but the business was carried on by his wife, Margaret C. Byrd (1882-1962), and his son, George A. Byrd, Jr. (1899-1982). George, Jr. was a graduate of Davidson College in North Carolina and a public school teacher, but found the time to manage the business and help at the store. In 1933 the firm was rechartered as Byrd’s, Incorporated when the younger Byrd’s father-in-law, T.A. Smith, joined the business. The firm lasted only three more years and was dissolved in 1936.



Wm. C. Geraty Co., One Thousand Cabbage Plants, Youngs Island, S.C. – cardboard, 29x59mm.

The growing of produce for market (termed “truck farming”) in South Carolina began in 1868, when

William C. Geraty (1850-1907) and his partner, Francis W. Towles (1848-1927), began a small scale operation on Yorges Island. In the beginning only cabbages and Irish potatoes were grown, but the concept proved viable and the state’s very first truck farm was regarded as successful. The business grew over the years, both in number of crops and the amount of acreage under cultivation, and in the early 1900s Geraty claimed that he was the largest shipper of cabbage plants in the world. By this time he had specialized in raising small cabbages from seed, then shipping the young plants to other farms where they were replanted and raised to maturity. In 1907 he shipped 58 million cabbage plants as well as 50,000 barrels of potatoes.

In addition to cabbages and potatoes, Geraty raised other vegetables—cantaloupes, asparagus, cucumbers, peas, and beans in particular—and was a dealer in Sea Island cotton seed. He also operated a general store and paid off his field workers in tokens. Geraty died in the winter of 1908, but the company continued in his name for some years, being operated by his wife and two of his sons. He was buried in Saint Lawrence Cemetery in Charleston.

New denominations discovered for previously reported issuers are:

E.P.B. & Co., 474 (serial #), Time Check, (Charleston, S.C.) – round, brass, (issued by E.P. Burton & Co.)

2, JPG, (Gourdin, S.C.) – round, brass, (issued by Julius Pendergras Gamble)

W.C. Hemingway & Co., Lambert, S.C. – 5¢, round, brass

M.S. Gibson, New Brookland, S.C. – 25¢, round, brass

H.G. Tyler Corporation, Tylers, S.C. – 25¢, round, aluminum

Wm. C. Geraty, Youngs Island, S.C. - \$1.00, round, brass

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED

WILL PAY \$100 EACH FOR THE FOLLOWING INGLE SYSTEM TOKENS IN NICE CONDITION: G.P. Fowler, J.W. Durham, N.S. Kirby, J.C. Ott, E.L. & G.B. Hamilton, McKinzie Co., C.S. Harvey, B.O. Turner, Bailey & Williams, A.S. Chaney, M.R. Hartley & Co., J.M. Baker, C.L. Schofield, R.C. Stallings, or N.P. Dunbar. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127, email: chibbaro@mindspring.com, cellphone: 803-530-3668

WANTED: SCRIP USED IN SAXAPAHAW COMPANY STORE. Yellow background, with red print, will read: GOOD FOR CENTS IN TRADE AT SAXAPAHAW STORE COMPANY. To be exhibited in the Saxapahaw Museum BLANDL@ELON.EDU

SALE

SET OF PLANTERS PEANUT TOKENS, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ and \$1.00. Just \$75.00 postpaid and insured. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC, 28729, ELADON@MORRISBB.NET. 828-891-3501.

CARTS Membership and Dues: Application for membership in CARTS is invited from anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

CARTSNEWS: CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

Advertising: Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected. Deadline for classified ads is the same as for paid ads (see below).

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.

